(a) what are the qualifications to be nominated a member of the Village Panchayat ;

(b) are difficulties experienced to nominate members with such high qualifications ;

(c) is there any proposal to reduce the minimum property qualification ; if so, what are the proposals ?

Mr. I. Raman Menon.—(a) The Member is referred to the answers to questions 195 (c) of the Budget Session of 1101, 170 of the Legislative Session of 1102 and 12 of the Budget Session of 1102.

(b) No.

(c) Yes. The proposal is to reduce the amount of assessment referred to in rule 1 (v) of the Election Rules.

Motor vehicles accidents.

49. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state:—

(a) the total number of accidents in the State for the last two years from motor vehicles ;

(d) the total number of mortality by the same ;

(c) the number of cases that were charged in the Criminal Courts ;

(d) the number of cases that were convicted ; and

(e) the total number acquitted or discharged during the said period?

Mr. P. Nilakanta Menon.—

(a) 66.

(b) 6.

(c) 30.

(d) 13.

(e) 7.

Diversion of the Manali River.

50. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to state what is the report of the Special Irrigation Officer with regard to the diversion of the Manali River ?

Mr. A. K Vengu Ayyar.—A statement on the subject is appended. (*Vide Appendix II.*)

Thannikkudam Scheme.

51. Mr. C. A. Kunjunni Raja.—Will the Government be pleased to place on the Table the papers in connection with the Thannikkudam Scheme?

Mr. A. K. Vengu Ayyar.—The Chief Engineer's report C. No. 930 of 1101, dated 26th July 1927, is placed on the Council Table.

Bridge over the Chengal Canal.

52. Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—Will the Government be pleased to state —

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tion is better than cure. Because of that prevention, there need not have been cases before.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—With reference to the answer to (e), I think it is one rupee for 100 rupees. Then with reference to (j), for the stamp vendors to earn one rupee, they have to put down the serial number of the papers, and note down the name of the person to whom such papers are vended on the back of 800 papers. The practice is unheard of.

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—That is the practice, and that is the rule.

Mr. K. P. Kannan Nayar.—So also in the court-fee labels ?

Rao Sahib Mr. T. V. Kasturi Ranga Ayyar.—With regard to court-fee labels, the name of the vendor and the date only are necessary. Article 44 which deals with court-fee labels lays down: "*On all adhesive stamp sold, the vendor should sign his name and enter the date*". That is the rule.

APPENDIX I.

(*Vide Answer to Question No. 46.*)

Letter dated 30th December 1927 from the Honorary Secretary, Young Womens' Christian Association, Kunnamkulam.

"With reference to your letter of the 1st November I have to inform you that the Seva Mandiram is under the control and management of the Y. W. C. A. and is a part of its work. It is built therefore on the Y. W. C. A. land purchased for the Association work. Land was purchased for the Association before the Government contributed Rs. 500 and subsequently to the Government contribution also land has been purchased. The Seva Mandir building is constructed on a piece of land purchased before the Government contributed Rs. 500. Please note that the Government contribution was not for the hostel but for purchasing land for the Association purpose, and that the main purpose of the Seva Mandir is to give habitation to women and children, which naturally comes under the scope of the Association work.

I was away from Kunnamkulam and that has been the reason for the delay in replying you".

APPENDIX

(*Vide Answer to Question No. 50.*)

"The diversion of the Manali river is a part of what has been called the Karuvannur Scheme. In this Scheme two different alignments for the diversion of the Manali river were surveyed. The first of these is at a place near Veembu. This involves very deep cutting and hence the cost of diversion will be prohibitive. This is, however, abandoned. The second is at a place called Marathakara. This proposed channel will pass through the existing cutting near the Padavaratt temple and empty itself into the Puncha lands beyond the Railway line near Ollur. A diversion from the Karuvannur river at a place between Palakkadavu and Arattupuzha is also being investigated. This goes through Pallisseri Kayal to the Kole lands near Muthulliyal. This proposal and the Marathakara diversion of the water seem to be feasible.

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The original idea was to divert the river by a big channel of about 2,500 cusecs capacity at only one place. Since this may lead to danger from floods especially at the point of exit, it is now proposed to divert the water in two places. The channel from the Manali river is proposed to be of about 1000 cusecs capacity and that from the main Karuvannur river of about 1500 cusecs capacity".

Resolutions on the report of the Special Finance Committee.

Head Clerks of Munsiff Courts.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I beg to move that "*This Council recommends that, due regard being given to the responsible nature of the work of the Head clerks of the Munsiffs' Courts in accepting documents, in fixing court-fees and penalty, etc., they may be given Rs. 60 to 80.*"

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I beg to second it.

The resolution was put and agreed to.

Typists.

Mr. C. J. Mathew.—I beg to move that "*This Council recommends to the Government that all typists in departmental and sub-offices be given the benefit of the time-scale pay of Rs. 30 to 60.*"

Mr. A. Eachara Menon.—I beg to second it.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—May I know whether this would affect only all departmental and sub-offices, and are they to get Rs. 30 to 60 ?

President.—Yes, that is, excluding the Huzur.

Mr. Thomas Manjuran.—If it excludes the Huzur, I have nothing to say.

The resolution was agreed to.

Shorthand Reporters of the Council

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—I beg to move that "*This Council recommends that the scale of pay of the three Shorthand Reporters (permanent) of this Council be raised to Rs. 40—6—70*".

Mr. K. Mohamed Seethi.—I beg to second it.

Mr. T. A. Ramachandra Ayyar.—The main purpose for which the Special Finance Committee was constituted was to increase the pay of the low-paid subordinates of the Cochin Government service and naturally every low-paid servant pleads for the same. From a perusal of the report, one finds that the case of the shorthand reporters of the Cochin Legislative Council has not been given the least consideration. The only reason attributable to it is that they form the smallest percentage (only three in all) of the Government servants. The typists and the shorthand typists have been recommended for an increase in pay. The present grade of the reporters, as can be found from

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